academic session 2008-09 from the campus of IIT-Kharagpur. The classes for the academic session of 2009-10 would start from the IIT-Kharagpur Extension Centre at Bhubaneswar.

(c) No elephants have been sighted near the campus. There is an Elephant Reserve in Bhubaneswar in Chandaka which is more than 7 kms. away from the land proposed for IIT Bhubaneswar.

(d) While, the University of Roorkee was converted to Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Roorkee in 2001, Central Government took over the control of 20 National Institutes of Technology (NITs)/Regional Engineering Colleges (RECs) at Allahabad, Bhopal, Calicut, Durgapur, Hamirpur, Jaipur, Jalandhar, Jamshedpur, Kurukshetra, Nagpur, Patna, Rourkela, Silchar, Srinager, Surat, Surathkal, Tiruchirappali, Warangal, Raipur and Agartala from 2003 onwards. Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Shillong was set up in 2007. The Cabinet on 17-7-2009 approved the establishment of eight new IITs in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh (Indore), Gujarat, Orissa and Punjab. The IITs and the NITs are Institutes of National Importance while the (IIMs) are Centres of Excellence.

**Establishment of Central University in Bihar**

†1894. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has approved the opening of a Central University in Bihar and the State Government has been asked to provide land therefor;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government of Bihar has selected a site for setting up of the Central University and submitted the proposal to the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the time by which the construction work on the site would commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Central University of Bihar has already been established by the Central Universities Act, 2009. The Government of Bihar is to provide, free of cost, about 500 acres of land for this University. The location of the University will, therefore, depend on the various sites as may be offered by the State Government, and would be notified by the Central Government in the Official Gazette.

(c) and (d) The Government of Bihar had offered three sites in East Champaran district. The Central Government is, however, of the view that good connectivity with social, physical and academic infrastructure of a high order would be of great significance for locating the Central University in the State. It would also be imperative that adequate housing facilities, good schools, health-care, job opportunities for spouses and other essential facilities, are available in the area, to attract and retain high quality of faculty in the University. The State Government has,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

therefore, been requested to identify suitable land for locating the Central University at a place well connected, preferable by air, and having good social infrastructure, as available in Patna, Vaishali, Gaya or Nalanda.

**Formation of Anti Ragging Committees by colleges**

1895. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of colleges and other institutions of higher learning aided by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and other central agencies where serious cases of ragging leading to deaths and severe injuries were reported during 2008 and 2009 so far separately;

(b) the number of these colleges and institutions which have not set up Anti Ragging Committee as per Supreme Court directions; and

(c) the action taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No information was being maintained centrally in regard to cases of ragging during the period referred to in the question. However, a case involving death of a medical student was reported in the month of March, 2009, as a consequence of an incident of ragging at the Dr. Rajendra Prasad Medical College, Tanda in Himachal Pradesh. The University Grants Commission has notified, on 17th June, 2009, its regulation namely "The UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009". These regulations are comprehensive and provide for a number of preventive, punitive and prohibitive measures including setting up of Anti Ragging Committee, stopping of grants by UGC and also withdrawal of affiliation/recognition or other privileges conferred, if higher education institutions fail to comply with any of the provision of regulations or fail to curb ragging effectively. The regulations also require higher education institutions to take effective steps in order to sensitize students on the dehumanizing effects of ragging and generate awareness among all stakeholders regarding the penal laws applicable to incidents of ragging. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has also notified its anti-ragging regulations on 01.07.2009.

**Participation in higher education**

1896. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the participation of students in higher education in the country is quite low compared with the advanced countries;

(b) whether it is making any concerted efforts to increase it; and

(c) if so, what are the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher